

REMARKS

The Notice of Non-compliant Amendment dated December 1, 2006 states that the reply to the election of species mailed on August 25, 2006 is non-compliant because the election of species I (First Embodiment) does not correspond to the claims previously filed on June 12, 2006. Applicants' representative apologizes for this error.

To make the response to the election of species fully compliant, Applicants respectfully elect species 9, the Ninth Embodiment.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-11, 13, 15, 17, 19, and 21-23 are readable on the elected species. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is generic.

Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application covering non-elected subject matter and/or to receive consideration of claims to additional species as provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.141, upon allowance of any claim that is generic.

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are

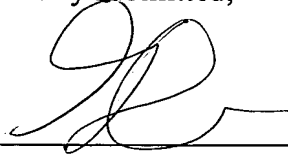
needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

12/28/06

By



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